

# **Fiscal Services Division**

## **Legislative Services Agency**

### **Fiscal Note**

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SF 169 - Methamphetamine Precursors (LSB 1123 SV.2)

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Fiscal Note Version – As Amended by H-1047

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#### **Description**

House Amendment H-1047 amends SF 169 by striking everything after the enacting clause. The Bill, as amended regulates substances that are precursors to amphetamine and methamphetamine including restricting the sale of pseudoephedrine to 7,500 milligrams (mg) from a pharmacy within a 30-day period. The Section of the Amendment that makes ephedrine a Schedule V controlled substance takes effect upon enactment.

#### **Assumptions**

1. A lag effect of six months is assumed from the law's effective date to the date of the first entry of affected offenders into the correctional system.
2. In FY 2004, there were approximately 1,950 arrests for manufacturing/distribution of methamphetamine.
3. In calendar year 2004, there were approximately 1,500 meth labs seized by State and local law enforcement. Approximately 42.0% of these labs were seized by the State.
4. In calendar year 2004, the cost to Division of Narcotics (DNE) to clean up a meth lab site in Iowa ranged from \$800 to \$1,200 per site, depending on the number of agents. This figure included a mix of federal and State funds. Approximately 40.0% of the Division of Narcotics Enforcement's budget is federal funds, which are anticipated to decline in future fiscal years.
5. The disposal costs for lab residue from the Division of Criminal Investigations Crime Lab is \$3,000 per quarter paid from DNE's allocation of the federal Community Orientated Policing Services (COPS) grant. Evidence from the Crime Lab is picked up after the analysis of exhibits has been completed and does not cover the costs of disposing of the lab materials not submitted as evidence.
6. During calendar years 2003 and 2004, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) paid for just over \$1.2 million in disposal of materials collected in lab cleanups for the two years combined. This money was paid directly from the federal government to Envirosolve, a hazardous material company out of Kansas City.

#### **Correctional Impact**

The correctional impact of Senate File 169 as amended by H-1047 cannot be determined; however, it is anticipated to be minimal.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

Any State, federal, and local savings generated by a reduction in meth labs will be redirected to other drug interdiction efforts by State and local law enforcement. Any savings generated by the provisions of SF 169 as amended by H-1047 cannot be determined.

Senate File 169 as amended by H-1047 establishes a serious misdemeanor for the purchase of more than 7,500 milligrams of pseudoephedrine in a 30-day period. The average State costs for one new serious misdemeanor conviction ranges from \$100 to \$4,000. The costs may be incurred across multiple years while the offender is supervised in the correctional system.

**Sources**

Department of Human Rights, Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division  
Board of Pharmacy Examiners  
Department of Public Safety  
Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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March 8, 2005

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The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Fiscal Services Division, Legislative Services Agency to members of the Legislature upon request.

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